

proposed area of diversion for any purpose other than survey and demarcation after obtaining prior permission of the local DFO.

(ii) No operation will be undertaken which will likely to disturb the migration and mass nesting of sea turtles i.e. between January to March every year.

(iii) The user agency will not, in any manner, cause disturbance to the Mangrove Ecosystem and wildlife habitat.

(iv) The islands where from diversion of land has been proposed will remain closed to outsiders excepting defence and forest personnels.

(v) The lights on the Outer-wheeler Islands during the period i.e. between January to March will have to be camouflaged in such a manner that it is not seen from Gahirmatha side, so as to present any disturbance to young turtle.

If these safeguards are properly followed the effect on the sea turtles will be minimal.

Subsidy on Sugar

562. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of subsidy given to FCI each month for the distribution of sugar;

(b) whether a large amount of subsidy is to be paid by the Government to FCI;

(c) whether the Government plan to clear the dues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Subsidy is paid to FCI as per the claims which are not monthwise.

| Subsidy Paid to FCI Date | Amount Released (in crores) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 19.12.95 | Rs. 100 cr. |
| 20.3.96 | Rs. 80.73 cr. |
| 21.6.96 | Rs. 155.62 cr. |
| 21.6.96 | Rs. 258.67 cr. |
| 2.1.97 | Rs. 81.46 cr. |
| 18.2.97 | Rs. 148.00 cr. |
| | Rs. 824.48 cr. |

Surrender of Militants

563. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of militants who surrendered before the Indian forces;

(b) whether there is any scheme for their rehabilitation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being obtained from States/UTs and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Programmes for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes

564. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether special programmes have been planned in the Ninth Plan to mitigate the problems of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) **Scheduled Castes Development** :

No new programmes have been proposed in the Ninth Plan in respect of Scheduled Castes Development. However, the on-going programmes are being continued and will be strengthened. Wherever necessary, the schemes will be suitably re-structured.

Scheduled Tribes Development :

A special scheme has been proposed during the Ninth Plan for Socio-Economic Development of primitive Tribal Groups, numbering 7 tribes, in the country. The focus of this scheme will be both basic infrastructure development and for educational and economic development. Medical intervention is also an important aspect of the scheme. During 1997-98, an outlay of Rs. 2.00/- crores has been proposed. This new scheme is proposed to be introduced in addition to the on-going schemes.

Minorities Development :

No special programme has been planned for the weaker sections amongst minorities during the Ninth Plan period except for the on-going scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching Scheme for Weaker Sections based on economic criteria. While an amount of Rs. 18.20 crores has been proposed for the Ninth Plan, during 1997-98 a sum of Rs.

2.50 crore has been proposed for the scheme. Besides the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), an apex Corporation, has been established in 1994 to promote economic and developmental activities for backward sections amongst minorities. An outlay of Rs. 175.00 crore has been proposed for the Ninth Plan, Rs. 40.00 crore has been proposed for 1997-98.

Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

565. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 does not cover several disabilities that exist in India and which require attention of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the N.G.Os. dealing with the disabled in the country have submitted a memorandum to Government for implementation of the Act into to;

(d) if not, the grievances of the Non-Governmental Organisations in this regard; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOVALIA) : (a) to (e) Representations have been received from Organisations representing different areas of disability, suggesting certain amendments in the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

The suggestions include incorporating more measures welfare, as well as for inclusion of additional disabilities. As the Act has been brought on the Statute Book only recently, it is premature to consider any amendments to its existing provisions at this stage.

[Translation]

Price of Urea

566. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the price of urea; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND

DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has become necessary to reduce the imbalance in the application of NPK nutrients.

[English]

Open Market Sale of Wheat

567. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the traders of Delhi to whom the FCI had allotted wheat for free-sale in the open market and for atta during April to December, 1996 indicating the quantity and rate of wheat allotted to them;

(b) the details of the irregularities noticed in the allotment of wheat for free sale and sale of atta; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the traders found involved in the irregularities ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Non-Forest Activities in Forest Areas

568. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the consequences of the interim order issued by the Supreme Court recently directing the State Government to stop all non-forest activities including mining in forest areas—leading to closure of a number of small scale industrial units and mines etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The matter is sub-judice as it is still being heard in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Exclusion of Income Tax Payers From P.D.S.

569. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has announced the new